

APW

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: REIMANN

In re Application of:)
JÜRGEN-ANDREAS REIMANN)
Appl. No.: 10/650,329)
Filed: August 28, 2003)
For: DEVICE FOR AUTOMATING AND/OR CONTROLLING MACHINE TOOLS OR PRODUCTION MACHINES) Group Art Unit: 2127

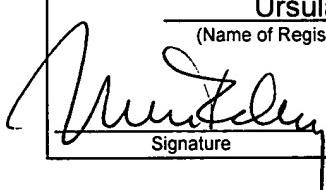
THIRD INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

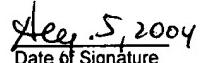
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on August 5, 2004.
(Date)

Ursula B. Day

(Name of Registered Representative)


Signature


Date of Signature

SIR:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references A) to B) which were cited in a German Office Action with regard to the corresponding German patent application No. 102 43 771.8. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited documents constitutes prior art against the pending application.

	Country:	Patent or Appl. No:	Patentee or Applicant:	Issue or Filing Date:
A)	Germany	198 50 502 A1	Crown Simplimatic	05-11-2000
B)	Germany	100 21 838 A1	Focke & Co.	11-08-2001

Copies of these references are submitted herewith along with form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

- This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d), so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.
- This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.
- This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.
- This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.
- This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the issuance of a first office but before issuance of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311.

[] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.

[] The undersigned submits the following statement requesting consideration of this statement:

The undersigned hereby states:

[] That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

[] That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

[] The fee of \$180.00 set forth in 1.17(p).

[] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee as set forth in 1.17(p), and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

[] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

Applicant notes with respect to any information that is not in the English language as follows:

Reference A) describes an electric drive motor (11,12,13) which is provided for each movement axis, each motor being mechanically coupled to a sensor (21,22,23) which detects the position of the machine along the axis of movement. For each movement axis, only one start command is set for the drive motor, a movement speed and a target position. Movements on any axes can be combined by triggering the start command for a further axis when a certain position is reached on one axis. An apparatus for performing the method is also claimed.

Reference B) describes an apparatus for producing products and a method of controlling such an apparatus, having a programmable logic controller-PLC-an axis control system, for controlling axes, and a visualization system for displaying processes and/or process parameters. In known apparatus of this type, the PLC, the axis control system and the visualization system are implemented in physically self-contained appliances. Linking these components requires a great deal of effort both during construction and during operation of the apparatus. The data interchange between the components requires an "overhead" in order to ensure the communication between the components. This is disadvantageous. The invention therefore seeks to improve such manufacturing apparatus and control methods in that the PLC, the axis control system and the visualization system run on a common physical appliance.

The above-identified application discloses and claims an invention patentable over this prior art.

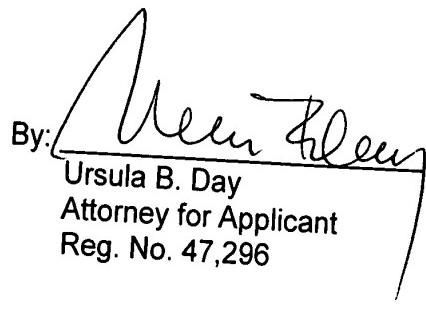
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Entry of the references above set forth into the file of the above application is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

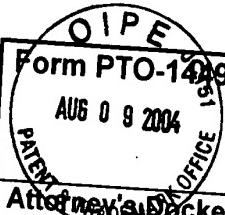
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

Respectfully submitted

By:


Ursula B. Day
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Reg. No. 47,296

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Form PTO-14
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

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*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.